CLAIMS: The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.

1. (CURRENTLY AMMENDED) A system for facilitating language learning wherein
   - said system is used upon samples of a target language, wherein each of said samples is called in this invention ORIGINAL EXTRACT,
   - said target language can be a foreign language or it can be the native language of the learner,

   wherein said system comprises :

   a)means to show one or more BLIND EXTRACTS for at least one of said original extracts, wherein
   - said blind extracts are graphical entities whose fragments have certain correspondence with fragments of an original extract to which they are associated,
   - in the most general case, said certain correspondence can be such that there might exist fragments in some original extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the blind extract to which it is associated, and there might exist fragments in some blind extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the original extract to which it is associated,

   b) means to aurally reproduce some fragment of some original extract,

   c) means to choose at least a fragment of a blind extract wherein said fragment is associated to a fragment of an original extract,

   d) means to generate information about said fragment of an original extract which is associated to said fragment of a blind extract,

   and wherein said system can be used in isolation or as a complement in an approach orientated to language learning, to present samples of a foreign language or to correct a problem in the utilization of the native language.

2 – 9. (CANCELLED).

10. (ORIGINAL) A system as claimed in claim 1, comprising at least a blind extract that is a SEGMENTAL BLIND EXTRACT, whose distinguishing feature is that it is divided into parts which are visually differentiated and which correspond to the segments of the words of said original extract, wherein said segments are units of sound of lower level than syllables.

11. 11-13 (CANCELLED)

14. (CURRENTLY AMMENDED) A system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means to graphically emphasize [~~in a sequential fashion~~] certain parts of at least one blind extract among said blind extracts, using for example a special font format or some other graphical means.

(15-16 CANCELLED)

17. (ORIGINAL) A system as claimed in claim 14, wherein said graphical emphasizing is performed simultaneously to the aural reproduction of a fragment of the extract, so that the parts that are reproduced at a given moment are approximately the same parts that are graphically emphasized at the same moment.

18. (ORIGINAL) A system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means to show the phrase structure of at least one of said blind extracts in some form, such as for example in one of the following forms:
    - the escalator tree,
    - the tower tree,
    - the phrase tree,
    - other type of form.

19. (CANCELLED)

20. (ORIGINAL) A system as claimed in claim 1, said system comprising:
    - a monitor, such as a computer monitor or a television
    - means to show blind extracts on said monitor
    - control logic that allows a user to interact with at least one of said blind extracts, and which allows the user to select fragments of said blind extract and to perform aurally

reproductions of one or more fragments of said original extract, wherein a fragment can be the a segment, a syllable, a word, a group of words or the whole original extract itself.

21-22 (CANCELLED)

23. (CURRENTLY AMMENDED) A method for facilitating language learning wherein
- said method is used upon samples of a target language, wherein each of said samples is called in this invention ORIGINAL EXTRACT,
- said target language can be a foreign language or it can be the native language of the learner,

wherein said method comprises the steps of :

a) inspecting [~~the inspection of~~] one or more BLIND EXTRACTS for at least one of said original extracts, wherein
- said blind extracts are graphical entities whose fragments have certain correspondence with fragments of an original extract to which they are associated,
- in the most general case, said certain correspondence can be such that there might exist fragments in some original extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the blind extract to which it is associated, and there might exist fragments in some blind extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the original extract to which it is associated,

b) aurally reproducing some fragment of some original extract,

c) choosing at least a fragment of a blind extract of said blind extracts wherein said fragment is associated to a fragment of an original extract of said original extracts,

d) generating information about said fragment of an original extract which is associated to said fragment of a blind extract,

and wherein said method can be used in isolation or as a complement in an approach orientated to language learning, to present samples of a foreign language or to correct a problem in the utilization of the native language.

24-31 (CANCELLED)

32. (ORIGINAL) A method as claimed in claim 23, comprising at least a blind extract that is a SEGMENTUAL BLIND EXTRACT, whose distinguishing features is that it is divided in parts which are visually differentiated and which correspond to the segments of the words

of said original extract, wherein said segments are units of sound of lower level than syllables.

33-35 (CANCELLED)

36. (CURRENTLY AMMENDED) A method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising the step [~~to graphically emphasize~~] of graphically emphasizing [~~in a sequential fashion~~] certain parts of at least one blind extract among said blind extracts, using for example a special font format or some other graphical means.

37-38 (CANCELLED)

39. (ORIGINAL) A method as claimed in claim 36, wherein said graphical emphasizing is performed simultaneously to the aural reproduction of a fragment of the extract, so that the parts that are reproduced at a given moment are approximately the same parts that are graphically emphasized at the same moment.

40. (ORIGINAL) A method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising the step of showing the phrase structure of at least one of said blind extracts in some form, such as for example in one of the following forms:
    - the escalator tree,
    - the tower tree,
    - the phrase tree,
    - other type of form.

41-47 (CANCELLED)

48. (NEW) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said information about said fragment of an original extract might be for example one of the following plurality of types of information, but not limited to them:
    - a playback of said fragment of original extract,
    - information to clarify the meaning of said fragment of original extract,
    - example texts where similar fragments appear,
    - other type of information,

49. (NEW) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the words of at least one original extract are biunivocally associated to the fragments of the blind extract to which said original extract is associated, i.e. for each and every word in said original extract there exists one and only one fragment in said blind extract, and there is no fragment of said blind extract which is not associated to a word in said original extract or to some punctuation sign in said original extract.

50. (NEW) A system as claimed in claim 1, comprising at least a blind extract which is a SYLABIC BLIND EXTRACT, whose distinguishing feature is that it is divided into parts which are differentiated visually and which correspond to the syllables of said original extract.

51. (NEW) A system as claimed in claim 1, comprising at least a blind extract whose distinguishing feature is that it is divided into parts which are differentiated visually and which correspond to the words of said original extract.

52. (NEW) A system as claimed in claim 14 wherein said means can be applied to graphically emphasize at least a fragment of said blind extract, said fragment being associated to a fragment of an original extract, said fragment of an original extract being linguistically relevant, wherein the candidate linguistically relevant fragments are segments, or syllables, or words or phrases.

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53. (NEW) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said information about said fragment of an original extract might be for example one of the following plurality of types of information, but not limited to them:
    - a playback of said fragment of original extract,
    - information to clarify the meaning of said fragment of original extract,
    - example texts where similar fragments appear,
    - other type of information,

54. (NEW) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the words of at least one original extract are biunivocally associated to the fragments of the blind extract to which said original extract is associated, i.e. for each and every word in said original extract there exists one and only one fragment in said blind extract, and there is no fragment of said blind extract

which is not associated to a word in said original extract or to some punctuation sign in said original extract.

55. (NEW) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one of said blind extracts is a blind extract which is a SYLABIC BLIND EXTRACT, whose distinguishing feature is that it is divided into parts which are differentiated visually and which correspond to the syllables of said original extract.

56. (NEW) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one of said blind extracts is a blind extract whose distinguishing feature is that it is divided into parts which are differentiated visually and which correspond to the words of said original extract.

57. (NEW) A computer readable medium containing computer executable instructions that, when executed by one or more processors of a computer, allows said one of more processors to perform the following steps:

a) managing samples of a target language, wherein each of said samples is called in this invention ORIGINAL EXTRACT, wherein said target language can be a foreign language or it can be the native language of the learner,

b) showing one or more BLIND EXTRACTS for at least one of said original extracts, wherein

- said blind extracts are graphical entities whose fragments have certain correspondence with fragments of an original extract to which they are associated,
- in the most general case, said certain correspondence can be such that there might exist fragments in some original extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the blind extract to which it is associated, and there might exist fragments in some blind extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the original extract to which it is associated,

c) aurally reproducing some fragment of some original extract

d) choosing at least a fragment of a blind extract of said blind extracts wherein said fragment is associated to a fragment of an original extract of said original extracts,

d) generating information about said fragment of an original extract which is associated to said fragment of a blind extract,

and wherein said steps can be used in isolation or as a complement in an approach orientated to language learning, to present samples of a foreign language or to correct a problem in the utilization of the native language.

58. (NEW) A computer readable medium containing a data set that, when interpreted by one or more processors of a computer, allows said one of more processors to perform the following steps:

a) managing samples of a target language, wherein each of said samples is called in this invention ORIGINAL EXTRACT, wherein said target language can be a foreign language or it can be the native language of the learner,

b) showing one or more BLIND EXTRACTS for at least one of said original extracts, wherein

- said blind extracts are graphical entities whose fragments have certain correspondence with fragments of an original extract to which they are associated,
- in the most general case, said certain correspondence can be such that there might exist fragments in some original extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the blind extract to which it is associated, and there might exist fragments in some blind extract that do not correspond to any fragment of the original extract to which it is associated,

c) aurally reproducing some fragment of some original extract

d) choosing at least a fragment of a blind extract of said blind extracts wherein said fragment is associated to a fragment of an original extract of said original extracts,

e) generating information about said fragment of an original extract which is associated to said fragment of a blind extract,

and wherein said steps can be used in isolation or as a complement in an approach orientated to language learning, to present samples of a foreign language or to correct a problem in the utilization of the native language.